

**LOUISVILLE METRO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**Thursday, June 16, 2005**

**Members Present:** Judge Kathleen Voor Montano, Chair; Kevin Sidebottom (designee for Tom Campbell); David Munden (Designee for Patricia Combs); Walker Cunningham; Sheriall Cunningham; Rev. Charles Duncan; Judge Stephen George; Leo Smith (Designee for Dan Goyette); Tom Dyke (Designee for David Huber); Tony King (Designee for Gary Oetjen); Elton Jackson (Designee for Clarence Williams); Tim Vize and Louis Willis.

**Excused Members:** Kim Allen; Roger Henderson; Steve Jenkins; Richard Lewis; Robert Schmitt; Judge James Shake; and Lt. Col. Terri Winstead-Wilfong.

**Guests Present:** Kim Yates (Supervisor, Court Designated Worker); Allison Kern (Jefferson County Attorney Drug Court); Maurice Risner (Jefferson County Public Schools); Carla Kreitman (Circuit Court Administrator); Russ Stapleton (Louisville Metro Police Department - LMPD); Sharon Brite (LMPD); and Peggy Kidwell (Criminologist).

**Staff Present:** David Nicholson; Bruce McMichael; Stephanie Stidham; Faith Hartlage and Barbara West.

**I. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER**

Judge Montano, Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance and called for introductions.

**II. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY OF MARCH 17, 2005 MEETING**

The meeting summary of the March 17, 2005 meeting was unanimously approved as submitted.

**III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Judge Montano announced that Mayor Abramson had reappointed citizen members Robert Schmitt and Louis Willis, as well as herself to another two-year term. The Judge called for a moment of silence in recognition of Louisville Metro Police Officer Peter Grignon, who lost his life recently in the line of duty. June is National Internet Safety Month and Judge Montano called on all members to be aware of potential crime issues while surfing the internet. Special attention should be made by parents to monitor their children's computer activity.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Mike Hettich, Chief Deputy, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office** - was unable to attend the meeting and will be rescheduled to present at a later date.

**B. Sharon Brite, Coordinator, 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Drug, Alcohol, and Violent Crime Database Report** – introduced the *Sixteenth Annual Drug, Alcohol and Violent Crime Database Report (January 1 - December 31, 2004)*. This is the 16<sup>th</sup> year for drug data, the 13<sup>th</sup> for alcohol data and the 12<sup>th</sup> for violent crime data. Since the last report, there are several new laws affecting the violent crime stats. New laws for fetal homicide and assault of a service animal are now included in the totals for homicide and assault, respectively. There is also now data relative to possession of weapons on school property. Drug trends are again showing a rise in the

methamphetamine offenses. The number of adult drug offenses increased by 4.8% while juvenile offenses increased by 19.7%. There were some notable drug seizures by the Louisville Metro Narcotics/Vice Unit for the second year in a row. Adult alcohol offenses in general are continuing to decline while juvenile alcohol offenses reached their highest total since 2000. An alarming number of individuals are being treated in emergency rooms for alcohol-related incidents. Violent crime offenses held steady from 2003 to 2004. Ms. Brite encouraged members to review the report in its entirety and call her if there are any questions.

When asked how the report is used, Judge Montano advised that the information is used for grant applications as well as resource planning. David Nicholson also mentioned it can be used for legislative purposes.

## **V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

David Nicholson reported on the following:

- As a follow-up to the March meeting which highlighted the Better Business Bureau's presentation on identify theft, David is working with the judges and Tim Vize to plan a safety and security session for members of the judiciary.
- Sheriff John Aubrey will be hosting the upcoming National Sheriff's Association Conference to be held in Louisville.
- Citizens Commission on Police Accountability continues to meet twice a month and has two to three cases before them currently.
- Disproportionate Minority Confinement Grant coordinator and advisory team members are working with the Circuit Court Clerk's Office to review juvenile records and are conducting a bench warrant analysis. Their work has been showcased across the State and is ongoing. The grant has one more year of Federal pass through funding through the State.
- Elder Abuse Prevention Council, under the chairmanship of Jennifer Leibson, is planning an event in May. Additionally, HB 298 passed. This legislation requires better reporting of incidents of elder abuse, neglect and exploitation, as well as stresses the need for collaboration and cooperation among criminal justice system partners.
- Jail Policy Committee continues to meet to address the management of the rising population. The inmate total for today is 2060. When the jail was designed, it was anticipated it could accommodate the inmate population through the year 2012. Mayor Abramson is scheduled to address the District Court Term regarding this issue.
- Conditional Release Program is scheduled to begin on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Pre-trial officers, through the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), will monitor the program and make recommendations to the judges for release of those who meet the criteria.
- Computerization Projects Committee met this week. The electronic citation project is scheduled to be rolled out after July 1 to the entire LMPD Traffic Division. There are currently five traffic officers using the MDTs for electronic citations with positive results. Tim Vize thanked Stephanie Stidham for her assistance with this project.
- The MetroSafe Initiative is completing the first phase of the unified command center at the Barret Avenue location.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Judge George announced that *Prime Time TV* is doing a story, hosted by Cynthia McFadden, on Jefferson County Family Court. The story is following two families through the court system and is tentatively scheduled to air on July 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 pm. The Judge believes it will be a positive story. An email notification will be sent to Board members when the air date has been finalized.

## **VII. ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. There will be no meetings in July and August. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, September 15, 2005, at 2:00 p.m. in the Crown Room of the Judicial Center.